

## Northern Region QI Committee

January 27, 2010

### Minutes

Present:	Carol Baumann	Daryl Melton	Pam Nacario
	Mary Francisco	Sarah Pomeroy	Brenda Durtschi
	Jean Marie Morris	Craig Monson	Joyce Booth
	Pam Clark	Sandy Rice	Sherri Engar
	Melonie Brown	Landon Halverson	Marie Grogan
	Virginia Pendleton	Sylvia Cobabe	Sandra Kimber
	Karen Kagie	Mindy Lundgreen	Eileen Nicholas
	Timothy Ledna		
Absent:	Linda Melton	Patty Connor-Rose	Estelle Dahlkemper
	Pat Milar	Jeff Tesch	Rhett Fronk
	Teresa Fowers	Bob Burch	Justine Stephenson
	Pam Hugie	Stacey Snyder	Pat Ropelato
	Susan Anderson	Art Rice	Winnie Warren

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Daryl Melton

- QCR Review: This year's review is scheduled the week of March 22<sup>nd</sup>. For members of this committee that would like to shadow a reviewer; it will be a two day commitment. Plus there will be a day of training the week prior to the review, on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Those that were interested submitted their names and **Carol Baumann will forward those to the State Office**. Someone from the State Office will contact the QI member with dates and times once the schedule is created.
- Change March QI Meeting Date: Due to the QCR being held the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will **move this meeting from March 24<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>**.
- Select New Co-Chair: Sally Jones can no longer be in this position. Eileen Nicholas has volunteered.
- Due to budget cuts, there will no longer be food provided at these meetings.
- IL Home: Due to budget issues, this was closed during the month of December. This was very difficult for the youth, staff as well as caseworkers. The CBH International donated funds which were used to hold a reunion for all the youth that had been associated with the home. It was a great success! All the youth that were living there have been placed in other placements or in a place of their own and all seem to be adjusting well.
- QI Summit: This is an annual gathering for all QI committees throughout the state. This is a half day event, with various panels. Part of the discussion that took place was what each committee has accomplished during the year. This is a great opportunity to meet other QI members and hear what's working within other regions.

- Immersion Day: This was a great success again this year. There was representation from many different agencies. The feedback has been very positive. People found it very informative. There have been suggestions to invite legislators and their spouse next fall and possibly look for a larger place to have it. **This will continue to be a topic of discussion for this committee.**
- Insight Training: This was a new training that was held in Oct. '09. The purpose of this training was to give foster parents and caseworkers a chance to meet, hear what goes on in each others lives/jobs, an opportunity to open up communication between caseworkers and foster parents. The foster parent cluster groups, along with CWAs from the region, will now hold one of these trainings 2 times a year. This will begin in April. Feedback from the original training has been very positive.

#### Pam Clark

- Kinship Locator Project: Handout. A volunteer agreement form for this project has created between the Family Support Center and DCFS. Pam has spoken with people from other states that already have a similar program in place. They talked about what has worked, what hasn't, what the barriers are, etc. The biggest barrier for us so far is the confidentiality piece and how will the process of passing information between those involved look like. Pam is still working on finding software that would work for this project. **Carol Baumann will set up a meeting with Kathy Searle from the adoption exchange, Mark Robertson and Sarah Pomeroy from DCFS, interns currently getting their hours at DCFS, and herself to try and get this project started.** We will be focusing on 10 youth that are a year or two from aging out of the system. Sherri Engar indicated that the CBH International has funds that could be used toward this project.

#### Carol Baumann

- Safety Model Training: In 2005, a DCFS workgroup was formed to develop Utah's Safety Model. This workgroup analyzed information from federal and state legislation, national resource centers, other state systems that had already implemented a safety model and Utah's current practice. In 2006, a conceptual framework was finalized. The model can be described simply by the use of the triangle concept of looking at safety and the three major risk factors considered. These factors are threats of harm, protective capacities of the caregivers and vulnerabilities of the child. Currently, DCFS along with court representatives, GALs and other community partners are beginning the process of developing tools that can be used to assess these three major factors. It is hoped that this will allow DCFS to make safety judgments based on tools that have demonstrated effective results. All DCFS caseworkers have received this training. Carol feels this would be a good training for this committee. This would help this committee have a better understanding of DCFS language, etc. **Carol will talk to the region training group to see if a training session can take place during the QI meeting in February.**

- Budget Updates: The State is facing very big cuts in the near future. We won't know for sure what fiscal year '11 will look like until after March. Also, Medicaid is cutting back in several areas in terms of funding we used to receive from them. This will have a very big effect on our youth that are in high cost placements. If we don't receive funding from the legislature to cover these cutbacks, DCFS will be facing big decision on how/where to get the funds to replace what we're losing. This could possibly mean cutbacks in staff.

Daryl Melton

- Disruptions: Handout—(Please treat as confidential)...Group discussion. This is becoming a bigger and bigger problem. This list shows how many placements have disrupted within the last year, the age of the children, the reasons the placements gave for disrupting. So many of these children have multiple problems and foster parents/kin don't feel they have the training/understanding on how to deal with the behaviors. It seems there needs to be better/more crisis intervention options available. Could there be more specific training options for foster parents regarding the 12 hours a year training they are required to get? Training to help with specific behaviors of children placed in their home? Are the home studies comprehensive enough? **This committee will continue to discuss these issues each month.**

Craig Monson

- Preventing Children Coming Into Care: Craig would like to see this be a topic of discussion for this committee. He will come back next month with a proposal to present.

**Next meeting is February 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**